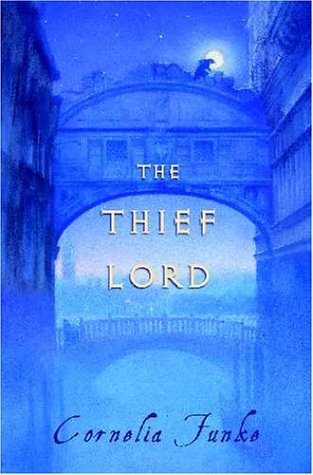
*The Thief Lord* tells the story of two boys, Prosper and Bo, who run away from their aunt to Venice, a city which their late mother told them about time and again. There they meet up with a gang of thieves, led by the mysterious Scipio, who calls himself the Thief Lord. When they receive a theft job from a mysterious old man, the group begins to fall apart, as Victor Getz, a detective employed by the boys aunt to find the boys, begins to disrupt the gang. Will the band of thieves be able to pull it together for one last job? What is Scipio hiding?



*Cornelia Funke spins a thrilling tale that will enthrall any middle school student with an aptitude for adventure and suspense.*



*This book will steal you away like a master thief!*

Any middle school student who has not read *The Thief Lord* should hop over to the library and check it out. It is an exhilarating must-read for anyone. One reason it is such a gripping book is because of the interesting conflict. This becomes obvious when the gang discovers that Scipio is not actually what he says he is. Prosper also has a personal conflict, wondering if he should take up the art of thievery, or continue as his honest self. Another reason middle schoolers would love *The Thief Lord* is because of its suspense. Cornelia Funke does a wonderful job of slowly building the suspense throughout the book. All the suspense comes to a climax when they go to meet the client, finish the job in the middle of the night, and end up chasing him back to where he is staying. In summary, considering all the spine-tingling aspects of *The Thief Lord*, you should absolutely put it on your reading list.